primitive spiders and their burrows would be a remarkably divergent adaptation by *P. oregona.*

Multi-cellular nests have been described only for the genus *Priocnemis* among North American Pompilidae, and use of abandoned arthropod or vertebrate burrows is known for this and related genera in Europe and South America (Yoshimoto, *ibid.*: 138). On the basis of the description of the unnamed wasp, the locality (Brookdale, Santa Cruz County), and the season (April), the curious account by F. A. Leach (1921, *Wild Life in California*, Tribune Publ. Co., Oakland.: 99) appears to refer to *P. oregona.* In this case the wasp provisioned a "bulky" spider about twice her own size in a burrow located about 18 inches up from the base of a nearly vertical, root-choked roadbed bank. The wasp did not fill the tunnel following deposition of the spider (at 3:15 p.m.), and then continued to occupy the burrow over a five day period of inclement weather. This tends to support the suggestion that sequential cell occupancy of the nest is practiced by *Priocnemis oregona* in a manner similar to its eastern congener.—J. A. POWELL, *University of California, Berkeley, 94720.*

SCIENTIFIC NOTE

Synonymy of the pselaphid beetles *Actium retractum* and *A. hatchi* (Coleoptera:Pselapidae).—In our revision of *Actium* Casey and *Actiastes* Casey (1971, Univ. Calif. Publ. Entomol., vol. 67) we indicated that *Actium retractum* Casey was probably the same species as *A. hatchi* Park and Wagner but were unable to locate the type specimen of *A. hatchi.* Dr. H. S. Dybas, Field Museum of Natural History, located the specimen and kindly brought it to our attention. Examination of this type confirmed the suspected synonymy.

Actium retractum Casey, 1908. Can. Entomol., 40(8): 270. Holotype ♂, Queen Charlotte Islands, Canada (U. S. National Museum—38643).

Actium hatchi Park and Wagner, 1961. Univ. Wash. Publ. Biol., 16: 20. Holotype ♂, Snoqualmie Pass, Washington, U.S.A. (Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago). NEW SYNONYMY—ALBERT A. GRIGARICK AND ROBERT O. SCHUSTER. *University of California, Davis, 95616.*

SCIENTIFIC NOTE

New Synonymy in the genus *Meloe* (Coleoptera:Meloidae).—In their recent revision of the North American species of *Meloe*, Pinto and Selander (1970, Illinois Biol. Monogr., No. 42) tentatively treated *Meloe* (*Meloe*) *quadricollis* Van Dyke as a distinct species. They recognized that individuals associated with this name were almost identical to those of *M. californicus* Van Dyke, differing but slightly in coloration and minor details of pronotal punctation. However, only three